

The Collegian

The University of Texas at Brownsville and Texas Southmost College

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Knot your ordinary circle



BLANCA ESTHER GOMEZ

Entering freshmen at an orientation attempt "The Human Knot" in June. This is a cooperation activity in which students join hands and attempt to untangle themselves without letting go.

Program to provide social aid

By Blanca Esther Gomez
Tiempo Nuevo Editor

Students and part-time university staff who are down on their luck may get a helping hand from the university from a social assistance program scheduled to begin in the fall.

With the slogan, "We will guide you in the right direction," the Emergency Social Assistance Program aims to help students and part-time staff through counseling and, in some cases, monetary support. The program seeks to reduce work and class absences with this assistance, said Hector Inaceta, director for Student Health Services and chairman of the Emergency Social Assistance for Students and Staff Committee.

"We hope to resolve problems dealing with housing, financial aid, health and lack of transportation," he said.

One of the most common

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Governors find common ground at meet

By Melissa Cantu
Staff Writer

Governors from both sides of the border gathered to discuss shared issues at the 16th annual Border Governors' Conference June 25-26 at UTB/TSC.

U.S. governors from Texas, Arizona, New Mexico and California, plus governors and representatives from the Mexican states of Baja California, Sonora, Coahuila, Nuevo Leon, Tamaulipas and Chihuahua arrived in Brownsville June 25 prepared to express concerns and ease tension between the states.

Having the conference in Brownsville was

the right decision to make, Texas Gov. George W. Bush said at a June 25 news conference.

"The City of Brownsville has extended a hand of friendship and done a wonderful job preparing for this conference," Bush said. "It's a chance to renew friendship."

He said the private dinner on June 25 would give the governors a chance to talk behind closed doors and away from media.

"Podemos hablar como amigos (We can talk like friends)," he said.

The governors were greeted with a red carpet and live music at a welcoming reception held

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Diploma mill student denied admission here

By Ginger James
Collegian Editor

If the offer seems too good to be true, it probably is.

At least that seems to be the lesson learned by one UTB/TSC school applicant, who attempted to enroll in Alternative Certification Program classes this summer with transcripts and diplomas

from Columbia State University. The transcripts proved to be from what is known as a diploma mill—a fraudulent institution that claims they can award an accredited degree in a short amount of time for a fee—Ernesto Garcia, director for the Office of Enrollment

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On Campus

Briefs

John R. "Rick" MacArthur, president and publisher of Harper's magazine, will present a lecture titled "How the Media Gets Span: From the Gulf War to Monica Lewinsky" from 6 to 9 tonight at the Alonso Building, 510 E. St. Charles. MacArthur received the 1993 Mencksen Award for best editorial-free column and the Illinois ACLU's 1992 Harry Kalven Freedom of Expression Award. Admission to the lecture is free.

United Blood Services will conduct a blood drive from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. July 22-23 in the Student Center TV room. Also on July 22, the Cameron County Health Department will conduct a mini health fair in the Student Center from 9 a.m. to noon. Free immunizations for measles, mumps and rubella, as well as diphtheria/tetanus boosters will be provided.

The Americorps Literacy Project, in cooperation with the University of Texas at Brownsville, is seeking student volunteers to serve as reading tutors for the Children's Literacy Corps. Applicants must be enrolled in college, available for at least 24 hours a week between 8 a.m. and 3 p.m. Monday through Thursday, commit to the program for a year and have an acceptable score on an English grammar and usage test. Volunteers will be placed in elementary schools in the Lower Valley to work with first-through fourth-grade students. They will receive a monthly living allowance of \$350.50 and a tuition/book credit scholarship of \$2,300 for completion of a minimum of 900 hours of service. For more information, call 983-7261 or 948-6584.

TASP preparation workshops for the July 25 test are in progress. The remaining Saturday workshops meet July 11 and 18. The schedule is reading from 9 to 11 a.m., writing from noon to 2 p.m., and math from 2 to 4 p.m. Monday through Thursday. Writing sessions are on Mondays, math on Tuesdays and Thursdays, and reading on Wednesdays. All workshops are conducted in North Hall 116. For more information, call the Learning Assistance Center at 544-8208.

Studying for A's workshops will be conducted July 20-23 in North Hall 116. Topics covered are "Stopping Math Anxiety" (Monday), "Maximizing Your Memory" (Tuesday), "Note-Taking Tips" (Wednesday), and Preparing for Essay Tests (Thursday). Monday, Wednesday and Thursday workshops are from 2 to 3 p.m.; Tuesday's is from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. For more information, call the Learning Assistance Center at 544-8208.

Overall enrollment increases; upper level dips in first summer session

By Ginger James
Collegian Editor

Total enrollment for Summer Session I has increased almost a third over the last five years, according to a report from the Office of Enrollment.

Since SSI 1993, enrollment has gradually risen from 3,231 total students to 4,176 students this past semester, an increase of 29.5 percent, the report stated.

Enrollment from SSI 1997 to SSI 1998 only increased 1.5 percent, the report stated. This is still a good increase, explained Ernesto Garcia, director for the Enrollment Office, because the increase between SSI 1996 and SSI

1997 was a tremendous 16.2 percent.

"I think we're OK (with the 1.5 percent increase), because between last summer and the previous summer the increase was 16.2 percent, and that's amazing," he said.

Such a large increase between those summer sessions had Garcia somewhat worried SSI 1998's enrollment might fall short.

"We were a little concerned that we would not match last year's figures, but we did, plus 1.5 percent," he said.

Graduate enrollment increased 14.6 percent from SSI 1997, bringing graduate enrollment up 174 percent since 1993, according to the report.

Concurrent and upper-level enrollment remain a concern, however, with concurrent enrollment dropping 34.3 percent and upper-level enrollment dropping 11.4 percent, according to the report. Garcia said he has noticed the drop in enrollment in these areas.

"It seems to be somewhat of a trend. Over the last three semesters, there has been a decline [in upper-level enrollment] from the previous years," he said.

Garcia said the Enrollment Management Task Force has been investigating the decline in upper-level enrollment.

"[The task force] is looking at retention, as a whole, and targeting specific programs," he said.

Local students chosen for health program

Twenty-nine high school and college students have been selected to participate in the Health Career Opportunity Program, a joint project between UTB/TSC and the University of Texas Health Science Center-San Antonio designed to facilitate the preparation and admission of students into medical, dental and allied health schools.

The six-week academic enrichment program, which began Wednesday, offers students preparatory classes in English, math, chemistry and physics. Students also receive help to improve studying and test-taking skills, interviewing, personal statement and resume writing, and stress/time management. A

trip to the UT Health Science Center is planned July 28-29 to observe the medical and dental programs and to meet with fellow students pursuing medical degrees.

Those selected to participate in HCOOP this year are Sarahi Avila, Daniel Loyd Booker, Bernardo Cano Jr., Charles Ray Flores, Lorena Gomez, Maria Lourdes Hernandez, Cesar Omar Lopez, Jose Manuel Lopez, Liliana Lopez, Perla Jessica Martinez, Beatrice Vela, Esmeralda Villarreal, Gladys Castro, Paula Brenda Degley, Dayana Delgado, Esmeralda Deven, Gabriela Olivia Garcia, Jorge Felix Garcia, Lori Ann Gomez, Ira Ivetta Mar, Debra Lynn Olivarez,

Zoraida Reyes, Mayra Rodriguez, Ofelia Serrata, Guadalupe Sosa III, Mari Carmen Torres, Daniel David Valdez Jr., Elda Evelyn Villarreal and Stacy Lynn Yzaguirre.

HCOOP is in its second year. The program is funded by a three-year grant from the U.S. Health and Human Services Department. Two first-year HCOOP students have been accepted into programs: Monica Castro is a dental school student at the UT Health Science Center-San Antonio and Gabriel Sosa is in the physical therapy program at UT-El Paso. Also, Cristi Gutierrez has been selected for a research internship at the University of Utah-Salt Lake City. Mike Medina will attend the Summer Multicultural Advanced Research Training Program in Fort Worth sponsored by the University of North Texas Health Science Center, and Daniel Valdez recently was elected historian for the UTB/TSC Student Government Association.

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On Campus

27-hour rule limits number of developmental courses allowed

By Melissa Cantu
Staff Writer

The state will no longer fund UTB/TSC for more than 27 hours of developmental courses.

This "27-hour rule" puts a limit on how many developmental course attempts the state will reimburse the university for before students pass the Texas Academic Skills Program test, Olivia Rivas, vice president for Student Affairs, said.

When students fail one or more of the three sections of the TASP test, they enroll in developmental courses until they pass the sections of the TASP they failed. A problem arises, however, when students who have failed all three sections of the TASP test continuously fail or withdraw from the developmental courses. Hilda Silva, director for the Counseling and Guidance Center, said.

"We have students who will enroll in the classes, and then drop one or all of them, and do this semester after semester," she said.

This 27-hour rule might help these students eventually pass the TASP test. After 27 attempted hours in developmental courses, students will be required to see an adviser to assess their situation, Ray Rodrigues, provost and vice president for Academic Affairs, said.

"If a student has many [developmental] courses still ahead of them, we're going to

place them in continuing education," he said.

However, there are alternatives for these students. They could apply to attend Texas State Technical College in Harlingen, Silva said.

"All options will be presented to the student," she said.

Some students may not have to enroll in continuing education at all, Silva said. Each case is decided on an individual basis.

"There has to be some kind of judgment on the part of the adviser," she said. "It might have taken an ESL student 27 hours to be ready for Comp I. It depends on the situation."

No matter what the adviser decides, financial aid will not pay for any of the classes the students need to take, Silva said.

"The students will not get financial aid. They are responsible for paying for their continuing education or TSCC classes."

The 27-hour rule is already affecting students, Rodrigues said.

"We now know as of the end of last semester there are 55 students over 27 hours," he said.

Rodrigues said there could be as many as 300 students affected by this rule in the fall. Many of these students could avoid this if they do the work required in the class, he said.

"The best advice is to do your homework," he said.

Board members sworn in

By Melissa Cantu
Staff Writer

The TSC board of trustees swore in elected members Roberto Robles, Prax Orive, Chester Gonzalez and Rosemary Broedlove last month.

On June 8, Robles took the oath of office for Place 6 on the board, with U.S. District Judge Filemón Vela administering the oath. Robles was 25 minutes late, but Vela did not seem disturbed according to trustee David Oliveira.

"I gotta say, he must be an important man, because I've never seen Judge Vela, whenever you're late for his courtroom, smiling like he is now," Oliveira said.

Vela said Robles is a "god-send" and would serve his community well.

Robles said it is a privilege to be a trustee.

"I'm going to be working very hard at making sure the future of this institution continues to progress at a rapid pace," Robles said.

On June 12, Cameron County Court-at-Law No. 2 Judge Migdalia Lopez administered the oath for Orive, who was re-elected to Place 4.

"This is a friend of mine, whom [I] is my pleasure to

swear in," Lopez said. "Anybody that I swear in is a good member."

Gonzalez was sworn into his Place 3 seat by 138th District Judge Roberto Garza. "He's an excellent man," Garza said. "He's done an excellent job as a board member."

District Attorney Yolanda DeLeon of Cameron County administered the oath for Broedlove.

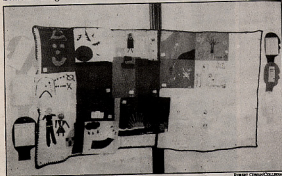
"She is relentless in pursuing something that she believes very strongly in and education is something she believes strongly in," DeLeon said.

Each trustee will serve six years, except Robles, who was elected to serve the two-year unexpired term of Tony Carmon. Carmon resigned from the board in December.

In other business, the board elected new officers. Mary Rose Cardenas retained her seat as chairwoman. Orive was voted as vice chairman and Broedlove as secretary.

Also, the board renewed a two-year contract for auditing services with the accounting firm of Patisillo, Brown, Hill, & Cascoo L.L.P. The firm will be paid \$22,000 per year.

Statement against sexual assault



This quilt, made by 15 victims of sexual assault, was on display for two weeks at the Arnulfo Oliveira Library recently. The youngest victim was a 5-year-old boy, the oldest, a 65-year-old woman. The display was sponsored by the Family Crisis Center Inc. to raise the public's awareness of sexual assault.

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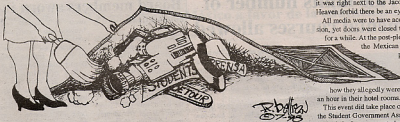
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Viewpoint



Editorial

A funny thing happened at the conference...

It all began with the decorations. There were colorful banners hanging from light poles and a large array of plants and floral arrangements placed just right in every area the border governors might spend some time during the conference. And let's not forget the food. Whoa. Metabolous dinners and trays of appetizers appeared wherever the governors went. Beautiful furniture from other parts of the university (not the TV room, mind you) were moved to the Science and Engineering Technology Building to accommodate high-societal scrutiny.

Not even a cockroach could get by the tight security of Brownville's Police Chief Ben Reyna, who was so focused on his purpose. When he couldn't answer one question, "Are you prepared for the conference," we, the media, understood. Then he answered a question for a reporter from *The Monitor*.

A reception was held the first night of the govern-

ors' arrival at Jacob Brown Auditorium, with red carpet ready to greet them. Outside the auditorium, music from a great band pleased the ears of those registering and walking in as the media scurried for interviews and that Pulitzer shot. The Collegian wasn't allowed in the vicinity of the big shots until we pointed out a Brownsville Herald reporter strutting around the bigwigs. We were told that photographers would be allowed into the reception, but only a couple—from the Herald and the Valley Morning Star—were seen inside as the rest of the media were told to stand far, far away.

The day of the conference added to the madness. All the closed roads and detours students at this university have to endure suddenly vanished. Where did they go? Not to worry, they suddenly reappeared as the last governor waved goodbye at the airport. As for that awful-looking Commandante's House, it was whitewashed to at least look presentable, since

it was right next to the Jacob Brown Auditorium. Heaven forbid there be an eyecore.

All media were to have access to the plenary session, yet doors were closed to some print reporters for a while. At the post-plenary press conference, the Mexican media voiced a complaint of their poor treatment by the Texas Department of Public Safety and how they allegedly were detained for more than an hour in their hotel rooms.

This event did take place on campus, but not even the Student Government Association president was invited. In fact, many students knew little or nothing about what was going on at the mysteriously guarded SET-B.

Not even at graduations do you see such pomp and circumstance. Our graduates, supposedly important to our university, do not get to enjoy at commencement the air-conditioned Jacob Brown Auditorium, the musicians, and the gourmet food the governors did for this conference. The university only paid part and sought donations for remaining expenses, but when people who reside in Brownsville and attend this university cannot enjoy the niceties presented to the governors, it's a shame.

A big deal was made over decisions that were general at best, but Brownville did manage to benefit with local business booming and the city gaining notoriety. It's true that the governors got to know each other better, but what Mexican governor wants to get to know to an old man from California who opposes immigration, yet once had an illegal immigrant as a housekeeper?

The Collegian

The Collegian is the student newspaper serving The University of Texas at Brownsville in partnership with Texas Southmost College. The newspaper is widely distributed on a campus of more than 8,000 students, and is a member of the Texas Intercollegiate Press Association.

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On Campus

University to hire dean of students

By Ginger James
Collegian Editor

Growth and the necessity for more defined roles in student judicial affairs prompted the university to search for a dean of students.

The position of dean of students has been "in the books" for two years now. Olivia Rivas, vice president for Student Affairs, said, but has remained empty. Increasing judicial affairs with students made filling this position a necessity, she said.

"We need someone to take care of student judicial affairs. That's the biggie. To focus on legal issues involving students, and student conduct," she said. "As enrollment grows, there is more of a need for this position."

Filling the position is also due to the observations of the visiting committee of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. The committee was concerned

about the Vice President for Student Affairs acting as both "representative and punisher of the students," and this was conflicting, Rivas said.

"They recommended a dean of students should be in place to represent the students, with the vice president for student affairs could remain as neutral as possible," she said.

The dean of students would not solely focus on judicial affairs, however. Campus life also will be a major focus of the dean's job.

"We have a great need to enhance campus life here," she said. "Traditionally, a dean of students is in charge of student leadership and student government."

The dean of students position remained unfilled until this year. The \$60,000-plus salary for the position is now available, since the university defunded the coordinator for Student Activities position and a testing specialist position.

"We were able to fund the program by just not filling two other positions we had here," she said. "We decided that getting a dean of students is more important [than filling those positions]."

Some departments in the Student Affairs division will be restructured under the dean of students, Rivas added.

"Many departments, such as Student Health, Career Services, and others, will be reporting to the Dean of Students now," she said.

Rivas said she is glad this position will be filled.

"I'm really excited, this is an opportunity for someone to be focusing on the students, someone really looking at the student organizations and students with greater knowledge and depth," she said.

Applications are being reviewed, and there are many good applicants, Rivas said.

"We hope to make a job offer in July," she said.

Lots of funds available on Internet for students

By Christine Tobam
Collegian Press Service

Last summer, Stephanie Murg needed money for college. Big money.

She estimated that four years at the University of Rochester in New York would cost around \$112,000. It was a price too steep for her parents — especially given her twin brother was also headed in school.

So Murg, now 19 and majoring in neuroscience, went on an aggressive jobbing expedition that, with help from the Internet, brought in enough cash to pay her way through college. Every dime, loan-free. The scholarships and grants she found on the Net alone totaled more than \$25,000. The rest she's paying with merit-based aid and a few local scholarships.

"I found so much money on the Internet that I was able to study over the summer at Yale and pay for it all," Murg said. "The Web is really the way to go nowadays. You just point and click, and you're there."

Experts agree that the Internet is fast becoming the best place for students to find scholarships, grants and low-interest loans. And aside from getting the benefits of efficiency and speed, students don't necessarily have to spend money to find money.

"There's so much information out there that I would never, ever pay someone to find anything for me," Murg said. "All it takes is a little patience and organization."

The Financial Aid Information Page, located at www.finaid.org, is a great place to start. This site provides a rich collection of calculators that help students and their parents determine how much in scholarships and loans will be needed to pay education bills. The calculators estimate how much parents are expected to pay under federal guidelines, and will even project how much tuition will cost six years down the road — a feature that's especially handy for students hoping to go to graduate school.

The industry of finding scholarships and low-interest loans for students is another option students have. The services charge a fee of \$3 to \$130 to supply information directly to students or resellers like colleges and universities. The business has been criticized over the years for charging students for free information.

FastWEB, the first free scholarship tracking service on the Internet, is a good way to sort through the thousands of loans and scholarships that are available and to avoid fraudsters. (See list database contains more than 180,000 opportunities to seek cash. By going to www.fastweb.com, students can find more than \$45 million in online scholarship applications that can be sent back to money givers with the click of a mouse in most cases.)

Within 15 minutes after students complete a detailed personal profile, FastWEB sends them a list of the scholarships for which they're eligible. The service provides updates when new scholarships and grants are added to its database. The service is free because FastWEB accepts online advertising from companies wanting to reach students, such as credit card and telephone companies, and also because it sells — after receiving permission from its customers — information gleaned from student profiles.

Murg said she found out about many of the scholarships she won by using FastWEB.

"When it's time for me to go to graduate school I'll be using them again," she said.

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The University of Texas at Brownsville
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On Campus

Skills test now a requirement for university admission

The Texas Academic Skills Program test is now a prerequisite for enrolling at state colleges and universities.

"State law has changed the testing requirements for stu-

dents taking any college courses," said Patrick McOehre, director of UTB/TSC's Testing Office.

"Before taking any courses, students must now take the

TASP test or an approved alternative. "Previously, students were allowed to take up to nine hours of college credit before the test was required."

Changes in the TASP law, approved by the 75th Texas

Legislature earlier this year, also impact returning students. Individuals who have earned less than nine credit hours and plan to return for additional courses also must meet the new guidelines. The

new legislation overrides any previous regulations regarding when the TASP test must be attempted.

For further information, stop by the Testing Office, located in Tandy 216.

Surgery goes well for UTB/TSC president

By Ginger James
Collegian Editor

UTB/TSC President Juliet Garcia decided to start the upcoming Texas state legislative year off on the right foot.

Garcia finally had surgery to remove bunions that had been getting worse over the years, she said.

"I've been having trouble with my feet for quite some time ... I needed to get them fixed, but I just kept putting it off and putting it off," she said.

Considering the upcoming legislative year, Garcia said she knew she would be on her feet a lot while trying to obtain more funds for the university. She decided that the sooner she took care of the foot problem, the better.

"I guess I plan my life around getting money for the university," she said, laughing.

Once she decided to have the operation, she wanted it done as soon as possible.

"I needed to be healed quickly; this is a legislative year and we will be doing a lot of walking..." she said. "[There's] no way I'm going to be hobbling around during this vital [legislative] time."

On the way back to Brownsville from receiving an honorary degree from Indiana's University of Notre Dame, Garcia stopped in Houston to have the foot operations. She said she decided to go ahead and take care of both feet at the same time, rather than one foot at a time, as was recommended by her doctor. The healing process, she explained, would take too long the recommended way, and she has work to do.

"There's no way I was going to be out of commission for that long," she said.

Garcia didn't have to stay overnight in the hospital—she was home by the next day. She stayed home for "three or four days," she said—not that staying home kept her from working.

"There's always e-mail, so we [the President's Office and Garcia] were always in contact," she said.

For a few weeks after the surgery, Garcia had to wear surgical booties, or "ugly shoes," as she said her granddaughter called them.

Although there was pain after the surgery, Garcia is "feeling much better now," she said.

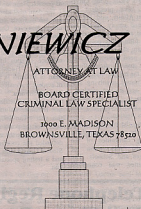
The pumps she often wore to legislative sessions and important meetings are a thing of the past for her now, Garcia said.

"I've decided to wear more comfortable shoes," she said.

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"Aid" from page 1

problems students face here is lack of housing, Iracheta said.

"The university's goal is to educate, but we realize that social problems exist (for some students), and we want to help them graduate," he said.

The program committee is composed of staff and community members. Besides Iracheta, those on the committee are Dorothy Caudozo, a member of the community; Bebe Crooks, Career Services and Placement adviser; and Cammy Petrod, Financial Aid loan program coordinator.

The program will be funded through private donations, Iracheta said. Volunteers are sought to help raise funds.

To make a donation or to volunteer, call 544-8951.

"Conference" from page 1

June 25 at the Jacob Brown Auditorium. All of the governors attended, with the exception of Chihuahua Gov. Javier Barrio Terrazas. He was unable to attend the conference due to a time conflict with an election, Bush said.

The governors gathered for general private meetings at the Science and Engineering Technology building June 26. Individual meetings between neighboring states of both countries then took place. Issues concerning border crossings, economic development, environmental control and social development were discussed.

During the plenary session later that day, the leaders voiced their concerns.

Gov. Fernando Canales Clariond of Nuevo Leon recalled the times, during his

childhood, when his family bought clothes in the United States and had to put the clothes on before they would cross back into Mexico for fear of having them taken away.

"Como a cambiado los tiempos (How times have changed)," Clariond said.

New Mexico Gov. Gary Johnson stressed the importance of bilingual education and how New Mexico is the only bilingual state in the United States.

"I'm not bilingual, personally. I wish I were," Johnson said.

Most of what was discussed will become recommendations to the federal government because the governors do not have a direct hand in making the decisions, Bush said at the plenary session.

The recommendations were compiled into a joint declaration, signed by each governor at the session. Not present at the signing were Governors Pete Wilson of California and Terrazas; however, they will sign the declaration at a later date, Bush said.

Recommendations include designating Nov. 15 as "Border Recycling Day," promoting programs that aid in the development of sourcing relationships with the maquiladora supplier industry, and promoting partnerships and cooperation between law enforcement agencies on both sides of the border.

According to the joint declaration, the governors will request that the Immigration and Naturalization Service honor 1-94 multiple entry documents for legal entry into the

United States for the entire duration of their validity rather than rejudicating these documents for each visit to the United States.

The governors also will work with the U.S. State Department to ensure that the new "laser visa" program is user-friendly, accessible and affordable to the applicant.

The university, along with the cities of Brownsville, South Padre Island, McAllen and Harlingen, the Brownsville Chamber of Commerce, Convention and Visitors Bureau, Economic Development Council, Public Utilities Board, Navigation District, Brownsville Independent School District, and several area businesses supported the effort to host the conference in Brownsville.

Texas will not host the conference again until 2008.

"Diploma" from page 1

said.

"What set off a red flag on this one [application] was the bachelor's and master's degree dates are one day apart," Garcia said. "That is not typical."

The Office of Enrollment looked into the legitimacy of Columbia State University, and found that its degrees are not acceptably accredited for UTB. In fact, further research showed that Columbia State University does not exist as a legitimate university, Garcia said.

A report in the Chronicle for Higher Education described Columbia State as a non-accredited institution with no recognition from the U.S. Department of Education. Columbia State advertised itself on the Internet and in newspapers as a "place to get a college degree in 27 days."

"One of my employees said he had seen the advertisement once in the Bargain Book," Garcia said. "That is the danger of it [non-accredited degrees through the mail or the Internet] ... the whole

thing is fraud."

However, Garcia said he does not think the UTB applicant was committing fraud.

"This student paid around \$3,000 to get two degrees that are not from an accredited institution," he said. "The customer paid for it. He's not guilty of fraud, but the institution is."

The UTB applicant did present Columbia State diplomas and unofficial transcripts to the Office of Enrollment. But in this case, as in any other case, diplomas and unofficial transcripts are not acceptable proof of accreditation, Garcia said.

"We do not accept diplomas as proof for this reason," he said. "Official transcripts from accredited institutions are what we accept. And we still look at the credentials carefully."

Garcia said he likes for every applicant's transcripts to be examined as carefully as this applicant's transcripts were. "It's nothing personal," he said, it's just the way to keep integrity in the Office of Enrollment.

"Integrity is what I like for us to work by here," he said.



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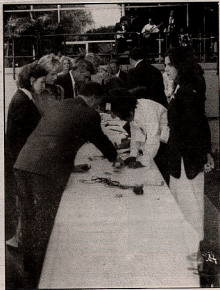
Pick up an application at Student Publications, located in the Student Center.

Governors' Gathering

Clockwise from top left:

- Gov. George Bush gestures during a news conference June 25 at the Brownsville/South Padre Island Airport. Shown with Bush are Texas Secretary of State Al Gonzales (left) and Brownsville Mayor Henry Gonzalez.
- Guests sign in for the border governors' welcoming reception. Guests included local officials, as well as business and civic leaders.
- Members of the Mariachi Alacran de UTB wait outside the Jacob Brown Auditorium June 25. The group performed during the welcoming reception for the border governors.
- UTB/TSC President Juliet V. Garcia listens during the plenary session of the XVI Border Governors' Conference conducted in the lecture hall of the Science and Engineering Technology Building. Sitting next to her is Humberto Filizola, rector of the Universidad Autonoma de Tamaulipas system.

—Photos by Robert Cowan, Irma A. Pena and Erick Tripp



Tiempo Nuevo

El estudiante de hoy



Por Irma A. Peña
Reportera

Nombre: Margarita Anzón
Edad: 28 años

Originaria: Madison, Wis.
Preparatoria: Edgewood High School.

Estudios: Licenciatura en español y estudios latinoamericanos, certificado en estudios chicanos, cursando maestría en Español.

Metas: Terminar mi maestría y obtener un doctorado en español.

Paratiempos: Escribir poesía, viajar, practicar en español, y escuchar música.

Deportes: Aeróbica, patí, voley, tenis.

Motivación: "Casi todos mis suegros. Cada persona que se encuentra en la vida".

Satisfacciones: "He publicado mi primer libro de poesía, poesía. Voy a publicar el segundo en este verano".

Escritura: "Escritura: una experiencia sobre la presencia del multiculturalismo en la literatura infantil, presentado en Odessa, Texas y en un simposio publicado en una revista literaria infantil. Además, escribí una poesía titulada 'El Siglo XXI: Un mundo conectado', el cual será publicado en una revista de la universidad de Arkansas".

Socios: "Aspiro a ser una gran poeta y escritora en español. Quiero ser una buena esposa y madre de familia ya que todo es posible".

Texas y Nuevo México a favor de la educación bilingüe

Pete Wilson se fue temprano

Por Irma A. Peña
Reportera

La educación bilingüe fue un tema cuestionado a George W. Bush, gobernador de Texas y a Gary Johnson, gobernador de Nuevo México, durante la pasada XVI Conferencia de Gobernadores Fronterizos de Estados Unidos y México.

Sin embargo, Pete Wilson, gobernador de California, quien se opone a la educación bilingüe en su estado, se retiró de la conferencia y de Brownsville sin dar comentario alguno a la prensa.

Bush afirmó que la educación bilingüe es para enseñar inglés como un idioma primario a los estudiantes de Texas.

"La educación bilingüe es para que el estudiante aprenda a leer y escribir en inglés. Si un niño está aprendiendo inglés mediante este programa de educación, hay que felicitar al sistema y a sus profesores. Si no es así, se debe hacer un cambio en el programa educativo (bilingüe) para hacer que ese niño hable inglés".

Por su parte, Johnson dijo que Nuevo México es el único estado en los Estados Unidos que es bilingüe.

"Nosotros promovemos el bilingüismo. Somos el único estado reconocido de todos los demás por ser bilingüe. Me gustaría ser bilingüe (pero no lo soy)", dijo el gobernador, demostrando su simpatía por el idioma español y la cultura hispana.

Bush enfatizó que en Texas se examina a los estudiantes de tercero, cuarto, quinto, octavo y décimo año escolar.

"Si no puedes leer inglés, no puedes realizar los sueños texanos. Yo no sé si los estudiantes en el programa bilingüe en California son examinados o no. Yo no sé si el gobernador Wilson examina a estos estudiantes en su estado pero nosotros examinamos a los nuestros en Texas", dijo Bush.

Y acerca del programa de educación bilingüe, Gayle L. Brogdon, oficial de certificación educativa del Departamento de Educación en UTB/TSC, dio posteriormente sus comentarios al respecto:

"El programa de educación bilingüe provee a los niños oportunidades de progreso en ambos idiomas y a que se muevan dentro del idioma inglés", dijo Brogdon.

Asimismo, dijo que el programa de educación bilingüe en Texas cuenta con otros idiomas además del idioma español, como



IRMA A. PEÑA/TIEMPO NUEVO

Gary Johnson, gobernador de Nuevo México, Héctor Terán Terán, gobernador de Baja California, un asistente del secretario de estado de Texas, Al González y George W. Bush, gobernador de Texas durante la XVI Conferencia de Gobernadores Fronterizos de México y Estados Unidos.

vietnamita, portugués, italiano, etc.

"El distrito escolar de Houston tiene 16 idiomas diferentes que tiene que proveer a sus estudiantes de educación bilingüe", dijo Brogdon.

El programa de educación bilingüe es un puente para que los estudiantes continúen su aprendizaje hasta que puedan funcionar en su segundo idioma (inglés), comentó Brogdon.

Al respecto, la estudiante de educación bilingüe Margarita Villanueva, manifestó que la educación bilingüe ayuda a los niños para adquirir el idioma inglés.

"Creo que los niños deben de entrar al programa educativo en inglés a partir del tercer año escolar, si empiezan desde kinder, y continuar su educación con ayuda de apoyo (tutores), para que no se atascen en el idioma inglés, dijo Villanueva.

Jessica Taveras, estudiante de negocios en el campus, declaró su insatisfacción respecto al programa de educación bilingüe, ya que si sus hermanas si ella se beneficiaron con él.

Taveras y su familia emigraron de la República Dominicana.

"El nivel de inglés que recibimos ahora muy bueno y no nos sirvió mucho el estar dentro del programa", dijo Taveras.

Socorro González, madre de Chester González, miembro del patronato de TSC, expresó su simpatía por el programa de educación bilingüe, a pesar de que ninguno de sus cuatro hijos estuvo en él.

"Para mí, la educación bilingüe es primordial porque ayuda a los niños. Mis hijos aprendieron inglés en la escuela y español en la casa".

Precisó que sus hijos estudiaron puro inglés porque no había educación bilingüe cuando ellos eran niños, y se vieron forzados a aprender el idioma inglés como los demás niños de su edad. Una persona que habla dos idiomas tiene mucho mérito", dijo González.

Durante la conferencia, miembros de la Asociación Universitaria de Intérpretes y Traductores de UTB/TSC, UTIS por sus siglas en inglés, tradujeron documentos en inglés y español.

Leo Dorantes, presidente de la asociación, interpretó la mesa de trabajo del medio ambiente y ecología.

Se contó además con intérpretes profesionales.

Tiempo Nuevo

Programa emergente de asistencia social

Por Blanca Esther Gómez
Editora de Tiempo Nuevo

Un nuevo programa de ayuda social dará inicio el próximo semestre de otoño en esta universidad.

Con el lema "nosotros lo guiamos en la dirección correcta", Héctor Iracheta, director de servicios estudiantiles de salud, dijo que este programa emergente de asistencia social, ayudará a estudiantes y a personal de medio tiempo de la universidad con el fin de minimizar ausencias en las clases y en el trabajo.

"Problemas como alojamiento, consejería, ayuda financiera, de salud y falta de transportation, esperamos resolver", precisó Iracheta.

Señaló sin embargo que uno de los problemas más comunes que se presentan es la falta de alojamiento.

"Nosotros sabemos que nuestro loma es educar, pero a veces nos damos cuenta que existen estos problemas sociales y queremos ayudar a los estudiantes a que se gradúen", explicó.

Iracheta dijo que son más mujeres que hombres los que hasta ahora han solicitado la ayuda de este programa, que aunque dará inicio oficialmente hasta el otoño, ya se ha dado ayuda a varias personas.

Consciente que el programa intenta también ayudar al personal de medio tiempo de la universidad, ya que no cuentan con seguro médico y la mayoría de las ocasiones, tampoco

pueden pagar servicios médicos privados.

El comité de este programa, está integrado por representantes de la comunidad



Héctor Iracheta

y de la universidad.

Héctor Iracheta es el presidente; Dorothy Carlson, es miembro de la comunidad; Bebe Crooks, orientadora de carreras del departamento de Bolsa de Trabajo y Cammy Penrod, coordinadora del programa de préstamos del departamento de ayuda financiera.

Iracheta precisó que las personas son enviadas a distintas organizaciones de la ciudad y del condado, de acuerdo a sus distintas necesidades.

Señaló que se aceptan donaciones en cheques y efectivo, así como personas que deseen hacer trabajo voluntario para recolectar fondos para el programa.

"Creemos que es un programa necesario y con futuro", dijo Iracheta.

Para hacer alguna donación a este programa, favor de llamar al teléfono: 544-8951.



FOTO COURTESY

Cristina Saralegui, conductora y productora de su programa de televisión y Blanca Esther Gómez, editora de Tiempo Nuevo, durante la celebración de la Convención Anual de la Asociación de Periodistas Hispánicos en Miami el mes pasado.

Estudiantes orientarán a sus compañeros

Por Irma A. Peña
Asesora

Orientar y guiar a los alumnos de nuevo ingreso es la tarea que a partir de este verano tienen siete estudiantes, empleados por el Centro de Consejería UTB/TSC.

Como miembros de un programa piloto de asesoría estudiantil, STING Students Together Involving Networking and Guiding, por sus siglas en inglés.

Hilda Silva, directora del centro de consejería de este campus dijo que estos servicios son para estudiantes de nuevo ingreso sin importar su edad.

"Muchos estudiantes no saben que hacer en cosas tan sencillas como usar las computadoras universitarias para hacer sus tareas", dijo Silva.

Dicha desorientación ocurre generalmente en estudiantes que forman la primera generación universitaria en sus familias, en aquellos que no tienen parientes o amigos asistiendo en

UTB/TSC, dijo Silva.

"Perdamos estudiantes de un año académico al otro, aunque algunos se van debido a problemas académicos", expresó la directora.

La División de Asuntos Estudiantiles había expresado la necesidad de conectar a los estudiantes con la vida universitaria para mantener nuestros estudiantes y mejorar su conocimiento de lo que está disponible para ellos en el campus, dijo Silva.

Silva creó y diseñó el programa STING usando para el nombre del mismo, iniciales de palabras que tuvieran relación con nuestras tradiciones como escorpiones en los deportes.

"Hay cosas tan sencillas como el saber que se puede tener un cheque disponible en la oficina de Ayuda Financiera", dijo Silva.

Los asesores son estudiantes recomendados por profesores o consejeros del campus. Además, son

estudiantes que trabajan 20 horas a la semana y que han recibido un día de entrenamiento previo al semestre en el que trabajan, manifestó Silva.

El programa STING es un programa piloto que funcionará durante los meses de junio, julio y agosto de 1998.

"Queremos que los estudiantes sepan lo que pueden y tienen que hacer, que conozcan lo que está disponible para ellos", enfatizó Silva.

La meta de este programa es establecer una mejor comunicación entre estudiantes, profesores y empleados administrativos.

También se busca orientar en consejería, asistencia de aprendizaje, planeamiento de carrera, asesoría, servicios de salud, deportes, ayuda financiera y actividades estudiantiles entre otras, informó Silva. Para mayor información, acuda al Centro de Consejería en Tandy 205 o llame al teléfono 544-8292.

Breves

El estudio de SIDA en el Valle ofrecerá exámenes gratis y servicios de consejería en relación al SIDA y enfermedades transmitidas sexualmente. Estos servicios serán ofrecidos los martes en el Centro de Salud Estudiantil, de las 10:00 a.m. y hasta la 1:00 p.m., a partir del 23 de junio. Estos servicios se ofrecen antes los jueves.

Sports

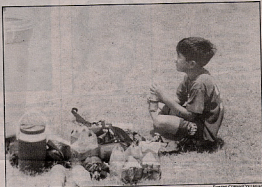


Kinetic Kids

UTB/TSC hosted a sports camp for boys and girls ages 6 to 12 in June. Around 15 children participated in the event.

From left to right:

- Coach Brian Funk (left) shows Samuel Lucio proper form for bumping the volleyball.
- Robert Vasquez takes a break on the sidelines to catch his breath.



KIM COOK/COLLEGIAN

Lady Scorps prepared for upcoming season

By Melissa Carrizo
Staff Writer

The Lady Scorpions are set to kick off the volleyball season with a home game Sept. 3 against Southwest Missouri State.

Lady Scorpion Coach Brian Funk said this coming season looks as if it will be a good one for the team.

"I have some pretty high expectations from this group," he said. "I see us as one of the better teams."

A few newcomers will enter the spotlight this season with the team picking up Bo Contreras from PSJA, Jessica Kromer from Edinburg High School and Andrea Sawyer from Willowridge High School in Houston. Funk said Contreras will be a starter for the team.

Funk is attempting to recruit some players from Mexico.

"I'm pursuing a couple of kids from Reynosa," Funk said. He said they are trying to take care of the necessary paperwork. "They've never even been across to shop."

The Lady Scorpions are part of the Region 14 Athletic Conference. Funk said their biggest competition would probably be Galveston.

"The coach over there is doing a good job," he said. "There's a big draw of kids from the Houston area." Practice for the Lady Scorp begins Aug. 17.

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